

ARTHUR J. LOGAN MAJOR GENERAL ADJUTANT GENERAL

KENNETH S. HARA BRIGADIER GENERAL DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSEOFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

January 10, 2019

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President and Members of the Senate Thirtieth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives Thirtieth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Logan Adjutant General



MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

THOMAS L. TRAVIS
ADMINISTRATOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

PHONE (808) 733-4300 FAX (808) 733-4287

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / CIVIL DEFENSE
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January 3, 2019

Senator Ronald Kouchi, President Hawai'i State Senate

Representative Scott Saiki, Speaker Hawai'i State House of Representatives

Re: Senate Concurrent Resolution 40 (2018) - Request for extension to submit report

Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency intends to respond to the Senate Concurrent Resolution 40 (SCR40) by December 2019. The Hawai'i State Senate and The House of Representatives in the Regular Session of 2018 passed SCR40, which called upon the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) to convene an emergency management review task force and then to submit that list of organizations, along with HI-EMA's findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019. That placed the due date for the specified list, report, and guidance on or about December 27, 2018.

Severe flooding on the Islands of Oahu and Kauai during the month of April 2018, followed by an unprecedented volcanic eruption in Hawai'i Island's East Rift Zone have severely tested HI-EMA's response capacity, calling for the full activation of Hawai'i's state and county-wide response resources, along with the activation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) personnel and other resources from across the nation. While the emergencies themselves appear to be winding down, allowing HI-EMA to plan for the next phase of recovery, these rare, all-hands-on-deck occurrences have left HI-EMA without the manpower required to undertake the review in a meaningful way. As such, our office-- as stated in a previous letter dated August 16, 2018—intends to address the action called for in SCR40 before December 1, 2019.

Please contact our office if you have any comments, questions, or concerns regarding this request by phone at 808-733-4300 or via email at Thomas.L.Travis@hawaii.gov.

Sincerely.

Thomas L. Travis

Administrator of Emergency Management



MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR J. LOGAN DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

THOMAS L. TRAVIS
ADMINISTRATOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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August 16, 2018

Senator Ronald Kouchi, President Hawai'i State Senate

Representative Scott Saiki, Speaker Hawai'i State House of Representatives

Re: Senate Resolution 23(2018) - Request for extension of time to submit report

Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

The Hawaii State Senate in the Regular Season of 2018 passed Senate Resolution 23, which called upon the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) to develop a list of organizations willing to contract with the State to immediately provide food, beverages, and ice to residents during a natural disaster; and then to submit that list of organizations, along with the Agency's findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019. That places the due date for the specified list, report, and guidance on or about December 27, 2018.

Under normal circumstances, the period of roughly seven months between the adjournment of the 2018 session and the commencement of the 2019 session may well have been sufficient to perform the review called for in Resolution 23. However, 2018 was not a normal year.

Severe flooding on the islands of Oahu and Kauai during the month of April, followed by an unprecedented volcanic eruption in Hawaii Island's East Rift Zone have severely tested HI-EMA's response capacity, eventually calling for not only the activation of state- and county-wide response resources, but also the activation of FEMA personnel and other resources from across the nation.

While the emergencies themselves appear to be winding down, allowing HI-EMA to plan for the next phase of recovery, these rare, all-hands-on-deck occurrences have left HI-EMA without the manpower required to undertake the review in a meaningful way. In short, we have been too busy to give SR23 the attention it deserves.

As such, we would like to request an extension in the deadline to submit to the legislature the list of organizations, findings and recommendations, and proposed legislation called for in SR23 until December 1, 2019. This will give HI-EMA adequate to perform a meaningful review and submit appropriate legislation, while also giving the legislature time to review the report and recommendation prior to the start of the second session of the biennium.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any comments, questions, or concerns. Otherwise, I look forward to hearing from you regarding this request.

Sincerely

THOMAS L. TRAVIS

Administrator of Emergency Management